

CAPTAIN LAMB IS FOR MONTAGUE

Mr. Swanson Expected to Arrive in Richmond To-Day.

MR. PULLER WON'T RUN.

The Labor Commissioner Now Has a Clear Field for Chairman—Live Political Items Gathered from the Leaders.

Congressman John Lamb is not for Congressman Swanson for Governor, as has been supposed, but on the other hand is in favor of the nomination of Attorney-General A. J. McHenry. Mr. John A. Lamb said yesterday that his father desired that his position be correctly stated, inasmuch as in signing out the seven Congressmen represented as being for Mr. Swanson he had been prominently placed at the head of the list. Captain Lamb authorized the announcement that he has never at any time obligated himself to either Mr. Swanson or his friends, and that he has been for Mr. Montague ever since the withdrawal of Mr. Ellison.

The delegation which retired yesterday is thought to have been divided as follows: For Swanson: Messrs. Lassiter, Okey, Hay and Rhea. For Montague: Messrs. Jones, Lamb, Hixey and Quarles. This does not place Mr. Swanson, though, of course, he is very warmly in favor of his own nomination. There was a Republican representative in the Second District.

A close friend of Representative Claude A. Swanson said last night that a gentleman would be in Richmond to-day to attend the meeting of the Virginia Democratic Club in Manchester to-night. As Mr. Swanson has an engagement to speak before a committee of his old college at the Jefferson Hotel, Saturday night, he will probably spend the week here looking after his fences. It is announced that he will establish State headquarters at Murphy's, and he will not doubt take some steps along this line while in the city.

Mr. Ordway Puller will not be a candidate for chairman of the City Democratic Committee, to succeed Mr. Gordon, who will retire Friday night to return to the Constitutional Convention. Although Mr. Puller's friends renewed their efforts to get him in the race yesterday, he finally announced that he would not run; that he did not desire to enter into any scramble for the place, and really did not seek it. He is grateful to those who desire him at the head of the committee, but is a member of the Executive Committee and superintendent of his ward, and his life is already an exceedingly busy one. It is likely that Mr. Doherty will be chosen without opposition.

It seems probable that an early date will be fixed for the primary to choose convention candidates, and April 21 is popular with many of the members. The plan in most respects will be like the one usually adopted for the House of Delegates.

A matter of considerable interest which will be determined by the committee on Friday night is the filling of the four vacancies which will exist when Messrs. Gordon, Scott and Montague resign, there being one already in Marshall ward. Messrs. Russell, Borgman, J. S. Brown, J. E. McKenney and Henry Taylor, Jr., are mentioned for Monroe ward; Messrs. Phil Shield and W. J. Kimbrough, for Clay, and Messrs. E. T. Lacy and J. W. Woodward, from Danforth.

A prominent leader on the committee said yesterday that when the time came to make a plan for the gubernatorial primary, he was very certain that there would be eight or ten names, out of the thirty votes cast, for a primary primary, which would allow the candidates to be voted for directly, and the one receiving the highest number of votes in each precinct to name the delegates for that precinct.

Information has been received here from Botetourt that Mr. R. B. Bledsoe, of Springfield, is one of the most prominent candidates for the Constitutional Convention from that county. Mr. Bledsoe is a man of considerable ability, and a speaker of force. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and his friends say he would make an admirable member of the convention. Mr. Penn is very popular in Botetourt, and his supporters are happy over his decision to be a candidate.

Colonel George Wayne Anderson is seriously contemplating entering the contest for the Constitutional Convention from this city, and will probably reach a definite conclusion in a few days. Mr. Anderson's friends are anxious for him to run, and express the belief that he could win.

Men, J. Taylor Ellison has been invited to attend the rally and speak before the Virginia Democratic Club of Manchester to-night. Mr. Ellison will be present, if possible, though he has several other engagements, and cannot reach them until a late hour.

Captain George D. Wise said yesterday that while he did not propose to go to make a house-to-house canvass for delegate to the Constitutional Convention, yet he should not hesitate, since he was in the race, to let his friends know it, and he should take the liberty of so doing whenever he should meet them.

It says he is much gratified at the outlook for his election and believes he will be one of the five. He seems to have lost none of his old-time popularity and is conducting a most attractive canvass for votes.

The friends of Judge George L. Christian who was spoken of in that connection some time ago by The Times, have succeeded in getting him to allow the use of his name for the Constitutional Convention in this city, and are hard at work for his success.

Judge Christian will in no way seek the honor, but after many urgent calls has told his friends that if elected he would consent to serve, and they are enthusiastically rallying to his standard.

Judge Christian is one of the most widely known and distinguished lawyers in Virginia, and was a gallant Confederate soldier, having lost a leg in the thickest of the fight for the Lost Cause. He is widely popular throughout the city, and his friends express the belief that he will win.

Mr. Sol. L. Bloomer, who is one of the most popular and substantial members of the lower branch of the City Council, is thought to have practically decided to enter the race for the Constitutional Convention, and the fact has brought much pleasure to his friends throughout the city.

A Jefferson ward leader said yesterday that the popular Councilman would be one of the five, and that his friends would spare no pains to pull him through.

Colonel A. S. Buford formally announced his candidacy for the Constitutional Convention yesterday. His card, which appears in another column of The Times, sets forth his views at some length and he promises, if he is elected to discharge the duties of the position fully and faithfully. Colonel Buford is quite popular in Richmond, and his friends believe he will be one of the five.

Judge Samuel W. Williams, of Wytheville, who is a prominent candidate for Attorney-General, is expected here to-day. He has some private business here, though he will probably not shut his eyes to the political situation.

Senator Thomas E. Blaker, of Tappan, is in the city, having come up to argue a case before the Supreme Court of Appeals to-day. Judge Blaker will probably be here several days.

Representative Lamb is expected to return to the city from Washington probably to-day and take a long rest at his home on Fulton Hill. Captain Lamb writes a friend here that he very deeply regrets the failure of his party to make a strong showing in the election, and that he is, though he did all in his power for the scheme.

Masked Balls in France.

PARIS, Saturday.—The graceful domino recalls to mind the fact that folly and gaiety are the order of the day, according to the calendar, up to the period for which the austerities of Lent are set down. It is, therefore, a merry, according to custom, and if the great receptions, masked balls, the "dinners de têtes" and the living pictures that will be going on everywhere in a few days leaves a little leisure, let us permit by it to design a sensation at the next ball, or at the "Veiglone" on the "Cote d'Azur."

At no period has feminine fancy been more enamored of this garment, which has long been a favorite, because of its highly interesting character. It is even highly interested to know its origin, which in no way foreshadowed its long and gay career.

In the Middle Ages, when the high-roads were unsafe and traveling was difficult, those who had a delicate mission to fulfill or a dangerous journey to undertake took shelter under the costume of the monks, which at that time was a disguise of an immense robe and a cowl, to which the wearer owed protection and moved safely amid the innumerable body of monks from country to country, and the dressless gave rise to the proverb "Caudus non facit monachum" ("The cowl does not make the monk").

This disguise was first used in Italy for society diversions, on account of the fact that those who desired to cut the robe in two down the front and add a short cloak to the hood. A black velvet or satin mask always accompanied the costume. It was especially popular in the night, and the Venetian youth exhausted its energy, its health and its fortune that the domino reached its widest popularity.

From Italy it passed into France, where it soon became indispensable for court fetes and masquerades at the court of Louis XIII., and even to a great extent at that of Louis XIV. There were gatherings where it was imperatively required, the King alone being exempt from the condition. The black domino, however, was not the only costume of the most exalted personages in the social scale, did not stop here, Louis XV., of sorry memory, was seized with a passion for "candle-balls," as it pleased him to call gatherings where the guests, in their dress, gowns, hairdresses and dress makers. He used to go to these balls in a black domino, masked and attended by the captain of his guard and a few officers of his household.

Under the reign of the opera balls completely popularized the domino, which began to be made in silk and lace and in all colors.

When Marie Antoinette was Queen of France she did not disdain to leave the splendors of the Palace at Versailles and court etiquette, which she detested, and make her appearance at the opera ball, which was held weekly. Mme. Campan relates in her memoirs an amusing incident that occurred during one of these occasions.

One evening the Queen set out with the Duchesse de Lorraine, one of the ladies of the palace. Her carriage had been brought to the gates of Paris and the pair had to alight. The Duchess induced Her Majesty to enter a shop while the footman went for a fiacre. The ladies were masked and enveloped in dominoes, and if they had only kept silence the event would never have become known. But to ride in a common cab was such a strange and amusing incident to the Queen that as soon as she reached the opera she mentioned her adventures to some of those whom she met. "C'est moi en fiacre; c'est-à-dire bien plaisant," she said, and next morning all Paris knew of the adventure.

During the Directory the taste for fancy balls was carried to a great extent, and the domino was worn at the balls given all over Paris. Statesmen, "grandes dames" and princes liked to show themselves at the opera ball. Down to the end of the Empire the domino was the tone and character of the aristocracy. At the balls given black and colored dominoes were the prevailing costumes; the men wearing evening dress and a black mask.

In 1820 the quietest people used to go to the opera balls, which, he it said, were less wild than those of former days. Under the Second Empire, however, people amused themselves enormously. The domino was the order of the day, and the forest of Fontainebleau set the example, and Paris had one continual carnival, where folly shook her bells all over the city.

It is very rarely in these days, that Paris resumes her exuberant festive air, but the opera ball still shines with a certain lustre, and the success of a domino has not yet waned. Nothing will replace this discreet garment, with its feminine charm and order of intrigue and mystery. Every year invention is called in to turn out charming new creations. In these circumstances one must display good taste and break with all the traditions of personal fashions. The modern desires to put on "incognito." The "fancie" ideas are carried to their fullest limit, and those who like the style of any given period can easily borrow what they desire.

And so they have continued to this day. At this moment the dressmakers bring to bear all the resources of their art in the production of this garment. Under the inspiration of current fashions they form the most ingenious and the most exquisite models.

McGill Union.

There was a business meeting of McGill Union at Cathedral Hall last night. Matters of a routine nature only were discussed.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Richmond, Hanesdale, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Welden, Hanesdale, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. E. T. Montgomery, and Master Louis Montgomery, Pittsburg, are some well known Pennsylvanians at the Jefferson.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, on account of inaugural business, handled

REVIVALS BEGIN IN MANY CHURCHES

Richmond and Manchester Baptists Hold Special Services.

DECLARE AGAINST CARNIVAL.

Methodist Ministers Adopt Resolutions Opposing It—Effort to Bring the General Episcopal Convention to Richmond—Other Church News

The concerted meetings planned by the Baptist Conference began Sunday at the Baptist Churches. The congregations were large, and many additions were reported to the churches at the Pastors' Conference Monday morning.

The Grace-Street Church invited the Grove-Avenue Church to unite with them in this special effort, as the Grove Avenue Church is without a house. This invitation was accepted, and this union meeting began Sunday night by a great crowd. Dr. Hawthorne and Hatcher addressed the meeting, and two choirs will sing the anthems, and Dr. Tribble of Charlottesville will preach to these congregations during the meetings. The two churches thus uniting have "all things in common."

There was a well attended union meeting yesterday at noon at the Second Baptist Church. This union meeting will be held daily between the hours of 12 and 1. The public is cordially invited to all these services.

Probably half the city pastors have visiting ministers assisting them and among the number are several of the most eloquent preachers in Virginia. The congregations last night, as a rule, were large, and much interest was manifested. Rev. Dr. M. E. Broadus who preached an exceptionally fine sermon at Immanuel Church indicated a desire to have a short prayer service at that church each day. His prayer service will be decided upon to-morrow.

A resolution was adopted yesterday morning by the Methodist Ministers' Conference condemning the Street Carnival, plans for which are now in progress, and expressing the hope of the ministers that the preparations for the carnival would be abandoned.

The resolution was presented by Rev. J. C. Reed, of Manchester, and declares the Carnival to be "a general and detrimental, both to the church and the community, and a source of much evil, and that the church should use every effort to prevent its holding."

The initial steps in another matter of great public interest were taken this morning by the conference. Rev. R. H. Bennett was appointed to prepare a paper sent to the coming Constitutional Convention, and to the coming Constitutional Convention with the organic law of the State so as to allow churches and other institutions connected therewith to be incorporated, and to be incorporated and to hold property. The conference will adopt the paper next Monday, and it will be presented to the coming Constitutional Convention with a strong backing, and the revised constitution will be passed upon the law favorably to the views of the conference.

It is probable that an effort will be made to have the other ministers' meetings join in the fight for the repeal of the present law. The matter will also likely be brought to the attention of the Ministerial Union of Richmond.

The conference also adopted a resolution urging the City Council to accept a generous offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie to give \$10,000 toward a free library for Richmond.

Want the General Convention.

An effort will be made by the General Clericus of this city to bring the General Convention of 1901 to this city. The matter will be pushed vigorously from now on, and under the circumstances it is thought likely that the movement will meet with success.

The first step proposing the matter was taken a week ago by the Southern Churchmen. The resolution adopted by the Clericus is as follows: "Resolved, That the Clericus has seen with pleasure the movement inaugurated by the Southern Churchmen to bring the General Convention of 1901 to Richmond, and that we heartily approve of the proposition and pledge our best endeavors to bring the matter to a successful issue. And that the Bishop and Bishop-Coadjutor be requested to bring the subject before the next Diocesan Council in their addresses."

The Council meets in Alexandria in May and if the matter is acted favorably upon, its delegates to the convention to be held next October in San Francisco, will be instructed to bring it here in 1901. The convention is the annual meeting of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America, and has a membership of about 600 in both houses—bishops and deputies—and meets every three years. It is the largest gathering of the kind in the country, and the most expensive. There is eagerly sought after by every large city. It has not met in Richmond since 1859 and it is greatly to be hoped that it will come here in 1901. The occasion will be also the ter-centenary of the landing at Jamestown, and this, it is thought, will strongly influence the convention in favor of this city.

If Christ Came to Richmond.

Rev. Robert P. Kerr, D. D., delivered Sunday evening to a large congregation the first of a series of Sunday evening sermons, under the title "If Christ Came to Richmond?" the particular subject being "The Relations of God to the Citizens." The sermon was a powerful one, and Dr. Kerr said in part:

"If Christ came to Richmond, to our citizens, politicians and office-holders, would he be welcome, and would he be able to do his work? He would be able to do his work in such conditions as that he could say: 'Well done, good and faithful servants.'"

"It is not for the pulpit to bring charges against any office-holder, nor to dictate public policies. The Church has nothing to do with politics, but it has much to do with religion, because they are men, under God's law, in public and private, and must admonish them to deal justly and maintain righteousness. It is bound to urge office-holders, who have taken oath before God, to keep their promises and to use their offices for the good of the people. Nor have they any more right to resent this, as an interference and impertinence, than have merchants, lawyers, doctors and people generally who are preached to every Sunday and urged to be virtuous, honest and true."

"So much has been said about the Church being entirely separate from politics and about the State not being Christian that some have come to feel that politicians and office-holders are exempt from the Ten Commandments. It is just as much the duty of the Church to instruct rulers to be honest as it is to instruct any other men in their moral relations. I will say to office-holders that they must discharge their duties, not for selfish purposes, but for the public good. I do not hesitate to say that every office-holder ought to ask God's guidance, and that the best preparation for his high trust is on his knees. Some of our officials are God-fearing men and do seek light from above. Queen Victoria was a

sovereign above reproach and eminently wise, because only, but also because she daily sought guidance from the King of Kings."

"If the Church has nothing to do with ordinary governmental policies, God has to do with them, and He holds governments, city, State and national, to strict account and punishes them in this world for their sins. A city, State or nation can commit sin just as an individual can. Governments are punished in time; the rulers and the ruled, as individuals, are punished in time and eternity for their sins, in both past and future. They show away and before the judgment seat of Christ to answer for the deeds done in the body."

"The main point of this sermon is to urge a serious consideration of their civic duties upon private citizens. It is a religious duty of Christians to take an interest in politics and public policies and elections and to use their influence to secure good and wise men for office; and, more than that—to take office themselves for the public good. It is charged that the good people of Richmond, who are citizens are in some degree to blame. Politics should not be left to men who seek office for what they can make out of it. The word politics has come to be a name for a man to sacrifice time, business and inclination that he may serve the people."

"If Christ came, would He find our rulers and the citizens doing their duty? I ask the question and leave you to answer it."

Dr. Kerr's subject next Sunday night will be "If Christ Came to Society in Richmond?"

Rev. Mr. Cave Declines.

Rev. P. A. Cave, of Hagerstown, Md., has declined the call to the Third Christian Church of this city. The church has not yet been officially notified by Mr. Cave of his decision, but it is expected that a letter will be received from him in a few days. The Times telegraphed Rev. Mr. Cave yesterday to know whether he had decided about accepting the call and he replied that he had decided not to accept.

Rev. H. T. Louthan on Sunday tendered his resignation as pastor of Howard's Grove Baptist Church. The resignation will take effect on May 1st.

The following is a list of the graduating class of the Union Theological Seminary who will leave for the fields in which they will labor:

Mr. B. C. Bell, a church near Sedalia, Mo.

J. F. Forsyth, home mission work in south-east Missouri.

A. D. P. Gilmour, Blue Ridge, Ga.

Thomas D. Johnson, Morriston, N. C.

Frank P. Jones, Murphy, N. C.

James F. Leeper, Presbyterian Church at Summerton, S. C.

J. G. McAllister will spend the summer in mission work near Rome, Ga., and next year take post-graduate work at Princeton Seminary, New Jersey.

Dr. Simpson will go as a foreign missionary, probably to Korea.

Thomas H. Watkins, Tusculum Presbyterian Church mission.

H. B. Seagrave will take post-graduate work at Princeton next session.

George Schenck will be called to the Second Church, Rome, Ga.

W. H. T. Squires, Bristol, Va.

T. E. P. Woods has been called to churches in North Carolina.

The two Persian students—J. E. Yohannan and Michael V. Soudani—will spend one month year in America and then return as missionaries to their own people.

The other members of the class have not yet decided where they will labor.

Notes About Church Services.

A mass-meeting in the interests of the Anti-Slavery League was held Sunday afternoon at Park Place Methodist Church. The attendance was very good.

The Rev. W. B. Beauchamp, pastor of Broad-Street Methodist Church, made a strong address. Dr. Beauchamp spoke and was listened to with great interest, and Professor Mitchell, of Richmond College, pleased his audience with a masterly address. The subject discussed by these gentlemen was, "That Is Bruising with such a Head."

The Bijou was well occupied by an intelligent and attractive audience Sunday afternoon at 2:15 o'clock attending the Jefferson Memorial services. At the same place and hour next Sunday the Rev. M. Kellogg, Schenck, will lecture on "The Restoration of Religious Independence, and plea for a return to New-Testament Christianity as marked by Thomas Jefferson."

Mr. M. B. Ramos was pianist and Captain Frank Cunningham led the singing. The members of the Bijou were unceasing in their efforts to make the police pleasant and attractive to those present.

The mid-day Lenten services at No. 125 East Main Street, will continue as usual this week. Rev. Dr. Kellogg, St. Paul's Church, will conclude the series of the first three days.

The appointment for Thursday and Friday will be made later. All men are cordially invited to spend an hour half hour at these services, from 1 to 1:30 P. M.

Rev. W. S. Leary, pastor of Fulton Baptist Church, began a series of revival services in his church Sunday. His subject at 11 A. M. was "An Old-Time Revival of Religion." At 7:45 P. M. "The Sin Against the Holy Ghost and How It May Be Committed."

The Rev. J. P. Bosman, pastor of Park-Place Methodist Church, preached to a large and attentive congregation at the Denny-Street Methodist Church. The revival services which started a week ago will be continued this week.

SOUTHERN'S DIRECTORY.

An Important Meeting Will Be Held Friday.

It was learned here last night that there would be a meeting of the directors of the Southern Railway in New York on next Friday.

It has been a long time since there has been a meeting of the board, the outcome of which was awaited with so much interest. The interest is due to the rapid advance of Southern stock recently, and the possibility of a dividend being declared.

Some went so far as to say the meeting might consider matters relative to the consolidation of Southern and Plant interests, but these only credited the absurd reports of the press of last night, that the rise in Southern stocks was due to the uniting of two properties.

FOR NINE HOUR DAY.

Machinists Hear Able Addresses on the Perilous Question.

The local lodge of the International Association of Machinists held an enthusiastic open meeting in Smith's Central Hall last night. The "Nine Hour Day" was the subject of the discussion, and addresses were made by Messrs. A. F. Murphy, chairman of the International Executive Board Iron Moulders' Union; James B. Doherty, Commissioner of Labor for Virginia, and W. E. Seal. The chairman of the meeting was Mr. J. W. Seal.

On May 19th the machinists of the country will make a demand for the adoption of the nine hour day.

DIVERSION PLAN IN PETERSBURG

Lost for a Season, But Not Given Up.

MYSTERIOUS CARD ON THE BANK

An Epidemic of Whooping-Cough Among the Colored People—Pastors Called to Churches in Petersburg.

Captain Wilson Dead.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

PETERSBURG, VA., March 4.—The talking to death of the river and harbor bill has temporarily blasted the hopes of those in Petersburg directly interested in the appropriation for Appomattox River which was incorporated in the bill. Senator Martin and Captain Carter R. Bishop have been tireless in their work for this much needed improvement. The reputation of Senator Martin for work was never more manifestly sustained than by his efforts in behalf of the Appomattox bill. It is due to his ingenuity that the bill was incorporated in the harbor bill by the Senate after being omitted in the House.

The delay, however, does not mean defeat. The efforts spent will not be lost, but it is believed will result in the appropriation being made next session.

ALL EYE SCHEMERS. All who have investigated the proposed deflection of the fresh water in the Appomattox pronounce the scheme entirely feasible and expedient. Those in charge of the project are confident that the assistance of Congress Petersburg will have an ample waterway to the Cape.

There is an epidemic of whooping-cough and influenza prevailing among the colored people of this city. There were eighteen deaths from these causes in the city last week.

MYSTERIOUS CARD.

"Good-bye; this is the last of me. E. R. Roberts." With this inscription was found on the river bank here by E. W. Drinkwater, just in the rear of John Belcher's butcher shop. Whether the card was left upon the bank by some one who took his own life or dropped it in the water and landed there, or whether it is a hoax, are questions that are now being asked. E. R. Roberts is unknown in Petersburg.

The committee appointed by West-End Baptist Church to recommend a pastor made its report yesterday and recommended that John R. Doan, of Blackstone, be tendered the pastorate of the church to succeed the late Rev. W. S. Leary. The church concurred unanimously in the report, and the call will be extended to Mr. Doan at once.

Captain D. V. Wilson, of Chesterfield county, died at his home at Sturday; aged seventy-seven years.

Rev. S. P. Drew (colored), president of the Lincoln National Industrial Bureau, of New York, has written a letter to Mayor Pleasant, requesting that he be granted the use of the City Hall for the purpose of lecturing on the immigration of the colored people from North and West.

He claims that thousands of his race have been fooled by employment agencies and left good homes, and been left penniless, homeless and friendless, and his race has decided to send lecturers throughout the South for the purpose of trying to stop this exodus.

After the night service at Old-Street Presbyterian Church, Petersburg, on Sunday, a congregational meeting was held, at which the committee appointed by the congregation to recommend a pastor, reported recommending that the church call Mr. Leary.

Mr. Pratt is a young man of splendid attainments. He is well-known here. During last year, in addition to his work at the Seminary, he taught at Mrs. Ellett's Girls' School, of this city.

PICKETT CAMP.

Session Devoted to Reading of Historical Papers.

There was a large number of veterans present at the meeting of Lee Camp last night, and there were also many Sons of Veterans in attendance to hear the historical papers.

Sergeant Martin Haslewood read a paper prepared by Captain J. M. Hudgins on the part of the Corps of Engineers in the war. Captain Hudgins served under the gallant Corse as commander of a company of the Thirtieth Virginia Regiment. The paper was listened to with the greatest interest.

Mr. Charles M. Vesson read an excellent paper on the battle of New Market and the part played therein by the cadet corps of the Virginia Military Institute. At certain points descriptive of the brave young Virginians there was thunderous applause.

GIRL SHOT BY ACCIDENT.

Gun Discharged While Being Handled by Dr. Leftwich's Son.

News reached the city last night that a colored girl employed as a servant in the family of Dr. A. L. Leftwich, of Henrico, was accidentally shot yesterday afternoon with a gun which was discharged while being handled by Dr. Leftwich's son.

The tragedy, of which but meagre information was received, occurred in the yard at the residence of Dr. Leftwich, a few miles from the city.

AMUSEMENTS.

The strike of the "White Rats" is still on, and most of the better known vaudeville stars are taking a rest. Progressive managers, like those of the Bijou, are not being daunted, but are getting ready to take the bill at the Bijou this week is one of the best ever presented in that popular home of vaudeville. The truth was that the audience was surprised at the excellence of the offerings.

The Four Regions were clearly the favorites. They presented a rural comedy sketch that was received with a perfect storm of applause. The sketch was original and was well staged. The character impersonation of three down-easters was excellent, and the dancing of the other member of the company was far above the average. The violin-I should say fiddle—playing of country dances was exceedingly laughable, and caused a paroxysm of laughter.

The Five Oracles, European grotesque acrobats, gave a wonderful performance. Their feats were new and difficult, and were accomplished with an ease and seeming lack of effort that added largely to their success. The youngest of the acrobats was one of the funniest and most amusing acrobats ever seen here. His tumbling was particularly good.

Corinne, she of comic opera fame, sang and danced well and played a mandolin solo that was very pleasing. She was warmly applauded. Powell gave a good old-fashioned exhibition of illusion work, presenting among other things a modification of the trunk trick used by Houdini.

UNITED STATES CASUALTY COMPANY, OF NEW YORK.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1900, OF THE CONDITION OF THE UNITED STATES CASUALTY COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF VIRGINIA.

President—JAMES W. HINKLEY. Second Vice-President and General Manager—W. F. MOORE. Secretary—ELSON S. LOTT. Incorporated—MAY 2, 1886. Commenced business—MAY 3, 1886. Home Office—41 BROADWAY, CORNER LIBERTY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

CAPITAL. Amount of capital authorized, \$300,000.00; subscribed for \$300,000.00. Amount of capital paid up in cash \$300,000.00. Amount of ledger assets, December 31st of previous year \$956,314.99.

INCOME DURING THE YEAR.